

About Plays and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

Robert H. Davis, editor of the *Money* magazine and author of the play "The Family," is to tackle the drama again. In collaboration with Owen Davis, who wrote "The Family Cupboard," "Sinners," and dozens of others, he has written a play called "Any House." "Any House" is not another "modern morality play," as its name might indicate. It is a drama of the present time, its central figure being a character identified with the sinister side of big business, who works out his own regeneration. This new work of the Davis clan is expected to reach Broadway about Feb. 1. An appropriate move by Mr. Aborn would be to make the other two Davises, Harry and Stuffy, company manager and press agent respectively.

Incidentally, the production of the play will mark Mr. Aborn's return to the drama. For years he has been concerned only in operatic offerings.

BELGIAN DANCER HERE.

Felyne Verbiest, premiere danseuse of the Opera Royal, Brussels, is in New York, having come here from South America, where she filled a number of engagements. She is soon to demonstrate her art in this city. Mlle. Verbiest is an interpretative dancer. She has appeared before some of the crowned heads of Europe. This is her first visit to America.

CHORUS GIRLS ARE SCARCE.

Henry W. Savage has discovered that there is a chorus girl famine. George Marion, who is staging the new operetta, "Pom-Pom," for Mr. Savage, is having a hard time corraling enough good-looking girls to make up a desirable amount of background for the new piece. He has engaged a few, however, and is serving them luncheon daily in the rear of the rehearsal hall. He won't let them go out on the streets at nighttime for fear the movie men and cabaret proprietors will grab them and make stars of them.

"BLACKMAIL" CAST.

George Mosser returned last night from Boston, where he saw the Mosser-Fiske production of *Blackmail*, a play, "Blackmail," at the Wilbur Theatre. In the cast are Harrison Hunter, Albert Brunning, De Witt C. Jennings, Edwin Nicander, Kenneth Hunter, Francis Bendisken, Regine Wallace, Lester Watson, Eleanor Gordon and Merle Madden.

ANOTHER STRONG CAST.

Klaw & Wanger and George C. Tynes & Company, have secured Eugene O'Brien, Grace Fikins, John Flood, Nellie McHenry, Evelyn Pyle, Everett Butterfield, Ethel Intropoli, Howard Kyle, George Abbot, Regine Wallace, Lester Watson, Eleanor Gordon and Merle Madden.

SOME NEW DANCES.

Viola Peterball and her dancing partner, Lemuel Quigg, gave a demonstration of the Art Triphiborean last night at the Hippodrome, and got away with it fine. The young couple first did a new step called the hen-peck glide. Mr. Quigg being very funny in his antics like the husband who is afraid to give his wife any back talk. Next they did the bronco buck, each of them being quite agile and pleasing the audience in the extreme. Right here it may be said that one of our citizens applauded too long. The people nearby suspected him of rum. The other interesting thing on the schedule was the music wait, in which both the dancers sneezed as though sick with the grip while going around. Miss Peterball and Mr. Quigg are exactly suited to dancing together, both being rangy and high-stepping. Rumor says they may invent another step called the matrimony glide before the sun of spring kisses the horizon of wonder and the crowd return to sing their lay—Delhi (Tex.) Bazo.

GOSSIP.

John E. Hogarty went West last night as manager of "Young America." "Sadie Love" will move from the Gaiety to the Harris on Jan. 17. Ben Ali Haggin's life-size portrait of Bonnie Glass is being exhibited in the lobby of the Palace. Miss Glass is dancing at that theatre. Cyril Maude will give his 70th performance as Andrew Bullivant in

"S'MATTER, POP!"

By C. M. Payne



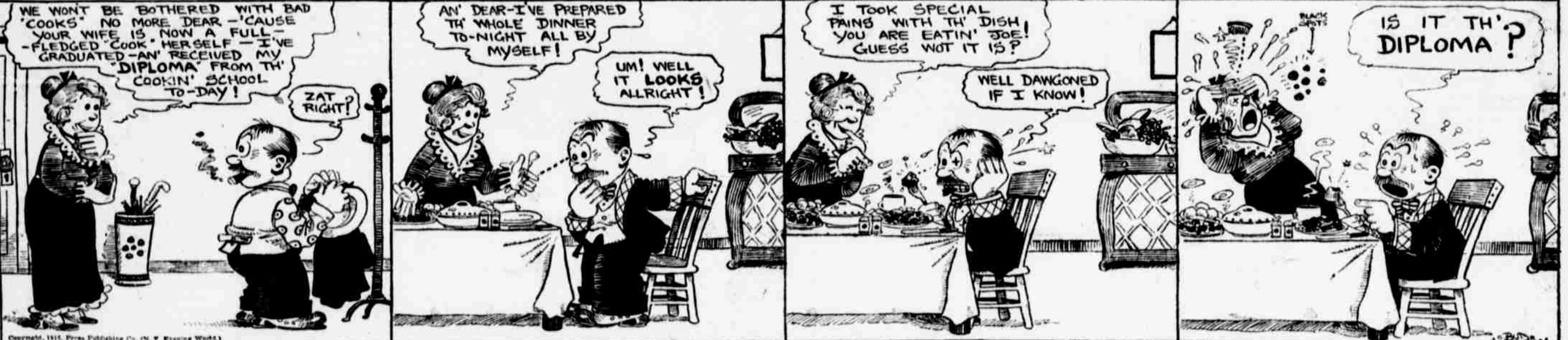
FLOOEY AND AXEL—What Happens From Now On—Will Be Published as It Happens!

By Vic



'T WAS EVER THUS!—There Are Times in Life When Even Guessing Is Difficult!

By Bud Counihan



"Grumpy" in Cincinnati Feb. 7. Arthur Hopkins has a new play which he will produce soon. It is from the pens of the McPhersons. The Leavitt benefit performance at the Manhattan to-morrow afternoon will start at 1 o'clock. J. C. Huffman is now directing the rehearsals of "Robinson Crusoe Jr." the new Winter Garden show. Arthur Hammerstein has engaged T. Roy Barnes for the leading comedy role in "Katinka." Florence Webster has returned from Scranton, where she played a week in "Naughty Marietta" in stock. Blanche Ring and the "Broadway and Hattermunk" company began rehearsing this morning. Some time this week the one millionth ticket to "Hip, Hip, Hurray!" at the Hippodrome will be sold. The buyer will be given a souvenir. Elsie Alder and Adolf Kroff will present a playlet called "The Barber of Seville" at the Actors' Fund benefit Jan. 28 at the Forty-fourth Street Theatre. Jane Warrington is being congratulated for her excellent work in "A Great Experiment," produced at the Lyceum Friday afternoon by the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Geraldine O'Brien of "The Devil's Garden" has been chosen to represent "Personal Beauty" in the allegorical film play, "Beauty," which will be used in connection with the Shakespearean tercentenary celebration.

country. A number of national, State and city officials will be present as special guests. An elaborate souvenir containing photographs of Mr. Crane in his most successful characters will be a feature of the affair.

THE DRAMA IN MISSOURI.
Henry Flack, proprietor of the Hobson House, is holding the trunk of the "Without A Dollar" dramatic company which played the hall last night. Yes, that's the reason—Walburn (Mo.) Eye.

FOOLISHMENT.
I know a boy named Willie Brown. Who ate a ball of soap. It killed him and his Pa got mad. I wanted some of that, I grieved Dad.

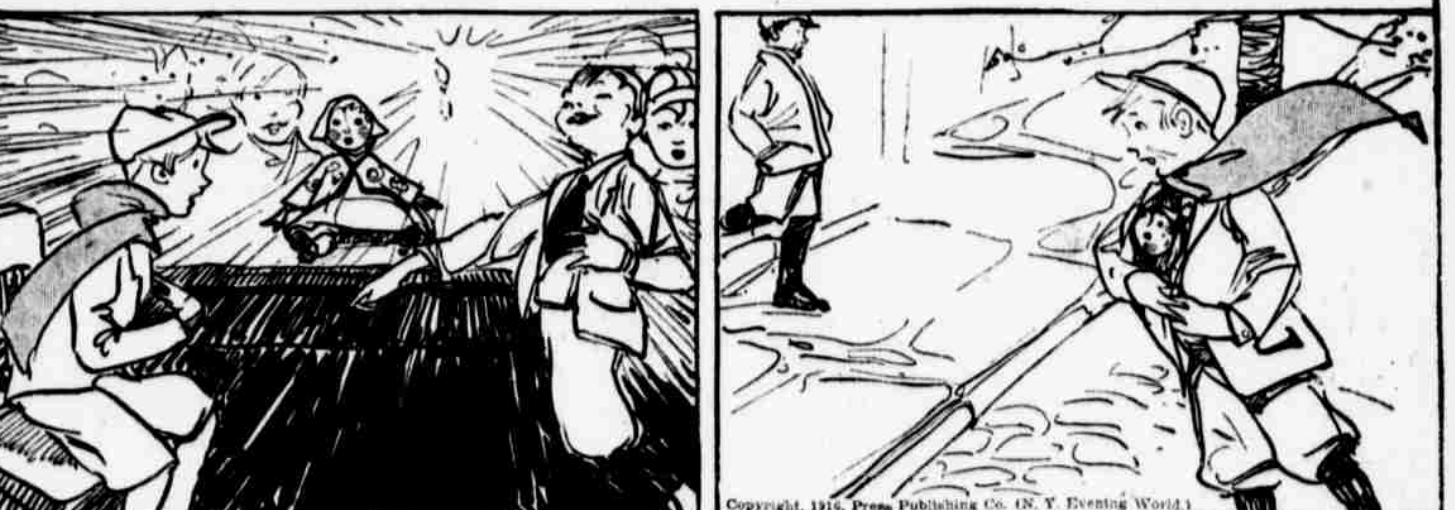
FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE.
"Her false hair blew into the bay, but I fished it out."
"You're a hero."
"No, I'm not. I'm a hair restorer."

INTEREST IN CRANE DINNER.
Letters of inquiry concerning the dinner to be given in honor of William H. Crane at the Waldorf-Astoria, Feb. 27, have been reaching the committee in charge from all over the

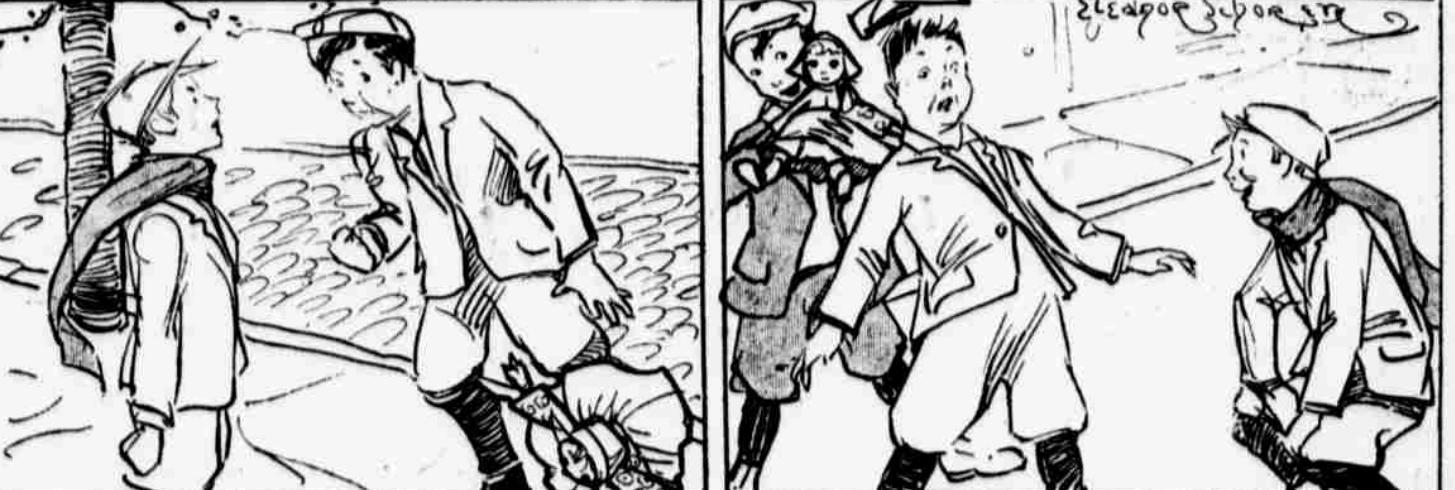
THE ADVENTURES OF TOPSY

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By Eleanor Schorer



"Bet I won't," spoke Danny Dare. Taking Topsy under his arm he left the secret room by way of the secret door, made for the block that Bill Burly lived in and reached it just at the time that Bill came down the steps. When Danny saw the big fellow he decided that Topsy ought to be protected from the cold wind, so he tucked her part way in his coat. It was more comfy, to be sure, but Topsy had her work to do, so she kept one eye watchful on Bill, who was coming nearer and nearer, like a great big thunder cloud.



And Topsy could tell that Bill was about to do some terribly mean thing to Dan when, as she lay there, her sawdust-rag self be-smearred and badly shaken and almost sorry that she'd made the funny face, all at once she was picked up in Peter's strong arms. Peter crept behind Bill Burly and, holding Topsy up to his ear, told her to squeak. She did, and Bill jumped for fright. Every one laughed at him and called him scare-cat. Topsy made another funny face at him as the clan went off hooting Bill Burly the Bully.

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HUMAN NATURE

By Thornton Fisher



TRYING TO HELP A FELLOW TELL A STORY.